

Message Text

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SUBJECT INNOVATION IN PROCEDURES AND STRUCTURES OF GOVERNMENT

JULY 11 MEETING OF HEADS OF DELEGATIONS

REF

(A) USOECD 18816

(B) USAOECD 17205

(C) CES/73.49

1. SUMMARY. SEC GEN BRIEFING ON PROPOSED EXPLORATORY MEETING ON INNOVATION IN PROCEDURES AND STRUCTURES OF GOVERNMENT WELL RECEIVED BY HEADS OF DELEGATIONS. LIKELY MOST MEMBER COUNTRIES WILL PARTICIPATE IN MEETING SCHEDULED FOR OCT 1-3, 1973. BECAUSE OF LIVELY RESPONSE TO THIS SEC GEN INITIATIVE WHICH REQUIRES FOLLOW-UP ASSESSMENTS, KEY STAFF PERSON, MARTIN LEES, POSTPONING WASHINGTON CONSULTATIONS UNTIL WEEK OF JULY 23, ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE RESCHEDULE ARE NOTED IN ANNEX TO REFDOK WHICH IS DISCUSSION PAPER FOR OCTOBER EXPLORATORY MEETING. ORIGINAL IDEA WAS THAT SOME 6 TO 8 COUNTRIES WOULD PROBABLY PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING. SOME DELS SUGGESTED POSSIBLE FURTHER PREPARATORY WORK, WHICH MAY LEAD TO SLIGHT POSTPONEMENT OF EXPLORATORY MEETING.

4. JULY 11 MEETING OF HEADS OF DELEGATIONS SHOWED WIDE SUPPORT FOR EXPLORATORY MEETING. STRONG

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POSITIVE TONE SET IN LEAD OFF STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR

VALERY (FRANCE) WHO NOTED VERY LIVELY INTEREST IN VARIETY OF MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES. THIS FOLLOWED BY FAVORABLE STATEMENTS BY MAJORITY OF HEADS OF DELEGATIONS. EXCEPTIONS WERE UK AND BELGIUM, LATTER MISUNDERSTANDING EXPLORATORY NATURE OF MEETING WHICH IS AIMED ONLY AT CLARIFYING POSSIBILITIES FOR OECD WORK ON STRUCTURAL AND PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS. IN CASE OF UK, THEY DOUBT VALUE ANY OECD ROLE, GIVE PROJECT LOW PRIORITY; STILL PLAN TO ATTEND MEETING. IN ANY CASE, STRESS GIVEN BY MANY DELS THAT ANY PROGRAM, APPOINTMENTS FOR LEES PREVIOUSLY PLANNED FOR PERIOD BEGINNING JULY 13. END SUMMARY.

2. MEETING OF HEADS OF DELEGATIONS, JULY 11, PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY FOR PRELIMINARY INFORMAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON SECGEN PROPOSAL TO HOLD EXPERT MEETING TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE OECD ACTIVITIES

ON INNOVATION IN PROCEDURES AND STRUCTURES OF GOVERNMENT, OCT 1-3, 1973. SECGEN NOTE, REFDOD, OUTLINING SECRETARIAT THINKING THIS SUBJECT WAS PRESENTED BY SECGEN VANLENNEP AND DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS KING.

3. BASED ON URGING OVER PAST TWO YEARS BY FEW MEMBER COUNTRIES, NOTABLY NETHERLANDS AND CANADA, FOR OECD EXAMINATION PROBLEMS OF GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND STRUCTURES, SECGEN PROPOSING EXPLORATORY MEETING TO OBTAIN CLEARER APPRECIATION OF EXTENT AND NATURE OF POTENTIAL MEMBER COUNTRY INTEREST WITH VIEW TO SUGGESTING POSSIBLE WORK TO COUNCIL ON LIMITED NUMBER OF SPECIFIC ISSUES. SUCH ISSUES

WHICH MUST BE AGREED BY COUNCIL, WOULD BE STRICTLY DELIMITED, FOCUSED ON REALWORLD ISSUES, AND SUPPORTED THROUGH EXISTING BUDGET/STAFF LEVELS.

3. DUE TO SURPRISINGLY ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE FROM MOST HEADS OF DELS TO IDEA OF EXPLORATORY MEETING, KEY STAFF MAN THIS PROJECT, MARTIN LEES, NOW REQUIRED TO ASSESS RESULTS OF HEADS OF DELEGATIONS MEETING DURING NEXT FEW DAYS IN ORDER TO BETTER PREPARE EXPLORATORY MEETING. LEES VISIT TO STATES, REFTEL (A), POSTPONED UNTIL WEEK OF JULY 23. HE PLANS TO SPEND MOST OF THAT WEEK IN WASHINGTON WITH PERHAPS LAST DAY OR TWO IN NEW YORK, AND WILL CONTACT RPE 9:00AM ON JULY 23 FOR APPOINTMENT SCHEDULE. IN ADDITION TO

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PREVIOUS SUGGESTIONS FOR APPOINTMENTS, REFTELS, MISSION RECOMMENDS (WITH LEES CONCURRENCE) APPOINTMENT WITH HERMAN POLLACK, SCI.BROWN

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